

THE AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 9, 1857.

AGENTS FOR THE AMERICAN.

For First, Second, Third and Fourth Wards, Henry Johnson, residence 408 K street.
For Georgetown, (The Embodiment.)
For Sixth Ward, George T. Dykes.
For Fifth and Seventh Wards, Mortimer Smallwood.
HENRY BOYER, Agent for Alexandria.

"Junius" has not furnished us his second letter, and we are sorry to learn that illness is the cause. We hope to have it for our next issue.

A UNION OF THE CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS OF OPPOSITION.

The Albany Statesman (American) gives us some excellent thoughts and reflections upon the state of parties in New York, which apply well also to the position of parties in the whole Union. After taking a view of the elements of opposition, it says: "United on a common platform in opposition to the aggressions of an alien influence, the defeat of the common adversary would be inevitable." Whether such a union, in the present exigency of political affairs, ought to commend itself to the favorable consideration of all conservative and patriotic men, is submitted to their candid judgment. See article in another column.

MR. PRENTICE'S LECTURE.

The wit, the poet, and the politician, George D. Prentice, delivered a lecture at Lynchburg on Monday evening—the same he had delivered in Baltimore, Richmond, and other cities—upon the tendency of politics in this country. The Virginian speaks of it in very commendatory terms, as worthy the gifted writer. The editor says, "we have rarely ever heard a more interesting discourse."

We understand Mr. Prentice will be in this city in a few weeks, and hope he may be prevailed upon to repeat his lecture here.

CONGRESS.

The annual assembling of Congress is the pleasant occasion for the hearty greetings of old friends, whose domicils are widely separated, but who have for years, more or less, been brought and have acted together as members of the same body, and thus learned to value each other, though perhaps politically opposed. For a day or two, party differences and asperities are forgotten, and the good and friendly feelings of the man only manifest themselves. Fire-eaters and Abolitionists, Democrats and Republicans, Pro-slavery men and Free-soilers, Americans, and those who at home denounce them and affiliate with foreigners, grasp each other by the hand, and give each other as cordial a shake as if no such distinctions and differences ever existed.

This, like the courteous interchange of civilities between the noble and gallant knights about to enter the ring and try the strength of their lances upon each other's helmets or shields, is soon to be followed by conflicts which will call forth all the strength and skill of the combatants, and sorely try their temper.

We may look for some keen encounters during the session of Congress now just commenced, between those so nearly matched in the use of their weapons that the victory must depend in no small degree upon how they are respectively mounted, or the "platform" upon which they have planted themselves. We apprehend the Administration has drawn itself and its forces into a quagmire, or occupies ground upon which it will find it very difficult to maintain a firm footing. This position is a very unfortunate one for Mr. Buchanan and the Democratic army, and bodes disaster whenever the battle, that is sure to come, shall commence. Indeed, many of the party see and feel the false position, the dangerous defile, they have been placed in, and manifest extreme solicitude to escape from it while escape is possible, even with loss and discredit. The opposition are aware of their advantage, and await the conflict with cheerful countenances and strong hopes.

IN A STRAIT.

The Union of Sunday morning heads its leading editorial thus:

"NON-INTERVENTION OR INTERVENTION—SHALL THE DEMOCRACY FORSAKE THEIR OWN PLATFORM TO ESPOUSE THAT OF THE ABOLITIONISTS?"

It may always be known when a man thinks he is getting worsted in a discussion, by his beginning to use epithets for arguments. Now the use of the term ABOLITIONISTS by the Union betrays a consciousness of its own weakness and indefensible position on the Kansas embroilment, and shows at the same time that it is getting irritated and petulant—just as a man sometimes is whose adversary, in a game of chess, has got him in "a bad fix," and is continually crying out "check!" to him.

We would, in the most friendly spirit, say to the Union, we don't believe that calling people "Abolitionists," because they happen to dissent from its present position and occupy the platform occupied by it but a few days ago, is at all calculated to frighten them from their propriety; especially when the term is applied to those to whom it is no more applicable than it is to the editor of the Union himself.

Did the editor dream that he was an abolitionist when he, very lately, ably advocated the submission of the constitution entire to the people of Kansas for their ratification or rejection? We suppose not—nay, we know he did not. Then his applying that term to others standing on the same ground, instead of frightening any one, will only call forth a laugh of derision. Occupying the important position he does, he should exhibit more placidity of temper, coolness, tact, and judgment. He has a difficult task to perform, we know, that of defending an untenable position, but we advise him to keep his temper and preserve his equanimity; for when he loses these he will be but the sport of his antagonists. The cry of "abolitionist" can frighten none but very weak-minded and very timid Democrats—such as believe in ghosts, hobgoblins, and the infallibility of the Union.

The emigration into New York, for the year up to the 25th instant amounts to 173,760, an increase of 40,662, as compared with the emigration of last year.

ARCHBISHOP HUGHES DENOUNCING COMMON SCHOOLS.

"A lecture on 'Catholic Education,' was delivered by Archbishop Hughes, last Sunday night, before a very numerous congregation in the Roman Catholic Church in James street, New York. The lecturer took strong grounds against the Common School system, as ignoring religion and the morality which flows from religion, and exhorted his hearers to have nothing to do with them beyond paying the taxes for their support. He attributed the prevalent immoralities to the (red) character of these schools, and urged on the Catholics the propriety of patronizing only such educational institutions as those conducted by the Christian Brothers and Sisters of Mercy, under the immediate supervision of the Catholic Church."

FRIEND, whoever thou art, whether Democrat, Republican or American; whether Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, or Episcopalian; we desire thee to read, mark, and inwardly digest what we have above quoted from a New York paper.

It is known that Bishop Hughes and all other Romish Priests are opposed to the Bible being read generally by the people, and do not allow any member of their church to form any opinion of the doctrines therein taught; but require of them to believe implicitly what is told them. Their dogma is that the people are incapable of thinking correctly, and therefore they have no business to think at all; this is to be done for them by the Priests, who are paid for that purpose.

Experience has shown that when the people presume to think for themselves, they are pretty sure to act for themselves; hence it has always been the policy of despotic rulers, as well as despotic priests, first to chain down the mind—to permit no one to think, or to express his thoughts. Freedom of thought, they say, breeds freedom of speech; freedom of speech freedom of action; and freedom of action rebellion against rulers.

Common schools—the universal education of the people—are the sheet-anchor of freedom of thought and action. They are the fountain from whence must flow the living waters of true, rational, law-regulated liberty. Dry up, or destroy this fountain, and the world would soon become a barren desert, scorched by the burning heat of despotism, and swept by the prostrating and desolating simoon of bigotry, tyranny, and oppression. Bishop Hughes has long labored to destroy our American school system of education, looking upon it as the great obstacle in the way of Romanizing the United States. His efforts at first were made cautiously and insidiously; but he has been so warmly encouraged and supported by the Democratic party, which he and his coadjutors keep in power and rule, that he now carries on his assaults openly and undisguisedly. What success may attend his unremitting labors, time will hereafter disclose.

HOPES DISAPPOINTED.

In the last century, previous to the Declaration of our Independence, the Bishop of St. Asaph wrote and published a discourse, in which he said:

"The colonies in North America have not only taken root and acquired strength, but seem hastening with an accelerated progress to such a powerful state as may introduce a new and important change in human affairs."

After going on and asking if they might not expect such and such great improvements and discoveries in science, philosophy, government, &c., from us, he says:

"But must they rest here, as in the utmost efforts of human genius? Can chance and time, the wisdom and experience of public men, suggest new remedies against the evils which vices and ambition are perpetually apt to cause?"

"May they not possibly be more successful than their mother country has been in preserving that reverence and authority which is due to the laws to those who make and those who execute them?"

The eminent statesmen and patriots who bequeathed to us the legacy of a constitutional government, and a profound respect and reverent submission to the laws, had fondly hoped that they had done all that lay in the power of man to do, aided by a gracious Providence, to insure that "reverence which is due to the laws," and to remedy "the evils which vice and ambition are perpetually apt to cause." But, were they to return once more to the active scenes of life, and behold those evils in full bloom and fruition in demagogism, and see how little "reverence" is paid to the laws by a very numerous body of the people, would they not exclaim, "Our sons have become degenerate; liberty, unprotected by law, hath taken refuge in heaven; licentiousness performs her orgies amidst outrage and blood, and her midnight yells disturb the sleep of men, women, and children. This is no longer our country; let us once more rest in the grave?"

The Independence, (Mo.) Messenger says:

"For three years we have had a continual din and turmoil of opposing factions in that distracted Territory, (Kansas,) which has extended to the border counties. Time and again we have been called upon to furnish MEN and MONEY to carry on a political campaign in Kansas, and the heated blood of factions has been infused among the masses until the whole country seemed incumbered with a rancor which has led to numerous outbreaks and crimes, which in ordinary times would have been deemed too barbarous for any but the most savage tribes to have been guilty of. This feeling has been carefully nurtured and fanned by wily demagogues, who have no other purpose to accomplish than political advancement."

The Messenger goes on to speak of the hopes it had entertained of this state of things being put an end to "by the full force, and fair expression of opinion in the formation of a State government by the people of the Territory." But in this it has been disappointed, "as the late Constitutional Convention in Kansas has refused to submit the constitution they have made to the vote of the actual inhabitants of the Territory."

It further goes on to show that by the terms of the submission of the slavery clause to a vote, anybody who may, by accident or design, be in the Territory at the time, may vote; thus inviting a general rush to the Territory, to vote—Missourians, Iowans, Illinoisans, Indians, and all others who choose to go there! What a farce is such a submission of a constitution to a popular vote!

Died, in Northampton, Mass., Thursday November 13, Mrs. Huldah Butler, aged nearly eighty-five. She was the widow of William Butler, who founded the present Hampshire Gazette in 1785, and conducted it nearly thirty years, and died in 1881. She was the daughter of John Brown, of Pittsfield, distinguished in the Revolutionary war, who fell in battle on the Mohawk in 1790.

WHAT CONSTITUTES A STATE?

Great Britain is becoming a nation of heroes. Her conflict with Russia, her bloody battles of the Alma, of Inkerman, and others in the Crimea; the charge of the six hundred; the siege of Sebastopol and all its terrific and heroic incidents, not forgetting the intense sufferings of her soldiers from cold, and hunger, and sickness, and the angel visit of her Florence Nightingale; and now, the active and passive valor of her troops and people in India—their fortitude, courage, patience, long suffering, and heroic endurance, their bloody battles and long-enduring sieges, their uncomplainingness under every privation, a burning sun, and a devouring pestilence—all these, terrible as they are, have made every Briton in India, and we may almost say, in every position of the Empire, a proud and self-conscious hero and heroine; and well may generations come to point to the present as the heroic age of the nation.

"The lessons of national adversity," says Chevenix, "are often the most benignant, when they seem the most severe. The depression of vanity sometimes ennobles the feeling. The mind which does not wholly sink under misfortune, rises above it more lofty than before, and is strengthened by affliction."

"What constitutes a State? Not high-raised battlement or labored mound, Thick wall, or moated gate; Not cities proud, with spires or turrets crown'd; Not bays and broad-arm'd ports, Where, laughing at the storm, rich navies ride; Nor starry'd and spangled courts, Where low-brow'd baseness vaunts perfume to pride. No-mens, high-minded MEN."

Men who their duties know, But know their rights, and knowing, dare maintain. "And SOVEREIGN LAW, the States' collected will, Site Empress, crowning good, repressing ill."

NO WONDER.

During the fiscal year 1855-'56, we only imported silks to the amount of - \$25,200,651
Gloves do do 1,844,550
Thread laces, in 1856-'7, to the amount of - 410,591
Fancy fire-arms, to amount of - 574,485
Furs do do 605,607
Hats do do 1,755,704
Embroideries do do 4,604,353
Cigars and smoking tobacco - 4,754,482
Foreign wines and spirits, over - 7,500,000
\$46,753,473

Over forty-six millions for a few items of luxury, for men and women! Not much—a mere trifle, to be sure; but for all the good these articles did the nation, the money might as well have been "in the deep ocean buried."

AN HONEST ADMISSION.

Governor Floyd, Secretary of War, in conversation upon the Kansas embroilment, admitted, as an honest man he should do, that in principle Governor Walker and the people of Kansas are right, and the Convention wrong—"As a matter of principle, the Constitution ought to have been submitted entire to the people of Kansas," says Governor Floyd, one of Mr. Buchanan's Cabinet. If, then, Governor Walker and those who side with him are right in principle, how can Mr. Buchanan be right in principle, too; or what principle has he to stand on? But the Union denounces Governor Walker, and the advocates of an honest execution of the Kansas organic act, as "the advocates of technicalities!" Those whom a member of the Cabinet admits are right in principle, are mere "devotees of technicalities!" The organ must surely be out of tune; or one of the choir out of tune, for there is discord and jangling in the band. One says they are right in principle, the other, they are "the devotees of technicalities." Which is on the right key?

AUDACITY.

Brigham Young has issued a proclamation. After setting forth sundry imaginary grievances he concludes as follows:

"Therefore, I, Brigham Young, governor and superintendent of Indian affairs for the Territory of Utah, in the name of the people of the United States, in the Territory of Utah, forbid—

"First, all armed forces of every description from coming into this Territory, under any pretense whatever."

"Second, that all the forces in said Territory hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's notice to repel any and all such invasion."

"Third, martial law is hereby declared to exist in this Territory from and after the publication of this proclamation, and no person shall be allowed to pass or re-pass into, or through, or from this Territory without a permit from the proper officer."

"Given under my hand and seal, at Great Salt Lake City, Territory of Utah, this fifteenth day of September, A. D., eighteen hundred and fifty-seven, and of the independence of the United States of America the eighty-second."

BRIGHAM YOUNG.

It is about time that this impostor, hypocrite and traitor, as well as his deluded followers, were made to know that the United States is "a power."

"QUIET OPPOSITION."

"Quintico," the Democratic correspondent of the Virginia Sentinel, who occupies a position at the Capitol, says:

"Judge Douglas had a long interview with the President yesterday. It was understood last night that Judge D. was in quiet opposition to the administration on the Kansas question, as it now presents itself."

"The Philadelphia Press still maintains its position of hostility to the action of the Kansas convention."

From this it seems that Mr. Douglas's opposition to Mr. Buchanan and the Administration is a sort of "masterly inactivity" hostility. We suppose, then, Mr. Douglas is well satisfied that Mr. Buchanan has run upon a sharp rock, upon which he and his administration must soon go to pieces, if no one will "intervene" to save them; but as he is committed to "non-intervention," he must of course be quiet, and let the fate they have braved overtake them.

DOINGS OF CONGRESS.

The Senate proceeded, on Monday, to elect a President pro tem, when the choice fell upon Senator Fitzpatrick, of Alabama.

The House organized by electing Mr. Orr, of South Carolina, Speaker; Mr. Allen, of Illinois, Clerk; Mr. Glosbrenner, of Pennsylvania, Sergeant-at-Arms; Mr. Hackney, of Virginia, Doorkeeper, and Mr. Cluskey, of Georgia, Post Master.

He who so patriotically declared that he would "never give up the ship," has religiously kept his word, having never a ship to give up.

"Go to thunder," is now rendered thus: "Take your departure to the abode of the reverberating echoes of Heaven's artillery."

The Position of Parties in New York.

When Daniel Webster arose in the Senate to reply to Hayne, before entering upon the great speech, unprepared in the English tongue, he drew a brief but graphic picture of a long-continued manner resorting to his camera, in order to regain the course from which the storm had driven him. To recall the attention of the Senate, which had been diverted by the impetuous eloquence of his adversary from the points in issue, he asked for the reading of a paper, and that magnificent forensic effort, which crowned him the greatest orator of his time.

The American party, as well as the Republican, dashed from their moorings by the recent hurricane, and drifting at the mercy of the elements, would well to follow the example of the long-continued manner resorting to his camera, in order to regain the course from which the storm had driven him. To recall the attention of the Senate, which had been diverted by the impetuous eloquence of his adversary from the points in issue, he asked for the reading of a paper, and that magnificent forensic effort, which crowned him the greatest orator of his time.

Past experience seems to have demonstrated that Democracy only triumphs when it succeeds in dividing the forces of its natural opponents. It is a minority in the State. The Opposition, a term applied by it, indiscriminately, to all other parties, is composed, confessedly, of a large majority of the people. That opposition, however divided and distracted in itself, and however often defeated in consequence thereof, maintains principles so directly adverse to the Democratic creed that the two grand divisions must necessarily remain antagonistic to each other.

Americanism and Democracy can never harmonize, because while the latter looks for foreign aid as its chief support, the former looks for its strength from the natives of the soil. One court to its side and flatters into its support the power of a great religious sect; the other watches that power with a jealous eye, and is always ready to denounce its arrogance and assumptions. Democracy glories in perverting our lax system of naturalization into a great manufactory of voters, as emergency requires, thereby rendering it the cheapest of the cheapest of all contrivances in the market. Americanism, on the contrary, would guard the door to citizenship so that no man might enter in to claim its privileges unless entitled to admission by virtue of his birthright, or until he had remained among us a sufficient period to become imbued with the spirit of our laws, and to acquire the habits of industry and public welfare, they are diametrically opposed, and between them there never can exist any unity of sentiment or action.

Between Republicanism and Democracy, likewise, there is no sort of affinity. They stand as far apart, upon every subject affecting the rights of persons, as the admission of new States, and the Federal Government, in the hands of the advocates of Free Soil can never join hands with the violators of the compromise of 1820. Those who adhered to ancient ordinances which established the line between Free and Slave Territory can never fraternize with the men who trampled them under foot, and who have sought to subvert the old and radical, and the daily current of events indicates to a moral certainty that this difference is destined to increase rather than diminish.

But wherein exists any vital difference between the American and Republican parties? Both, certainly, are in the same position, and are equally obnoxious to the vast mass of foreigners who sustain the leaders and uphold the fortunes of Democracy. Dark Latentism and Black Republicanism are classed by them in the same contemptuous category. One is denounced as the offspring of bigotry, the other of fanaticism. While, certainly, no congeniality exists in the views of the two parties, the Republican platform is rarely to be found who has not come to acknowledge a sympathy with the universal feeling that called the American party into existence; who does not see and confess the necessity of purifying the ballot-box—of revising the naturalization laws—of elevating American citizenship to its proper value, and of suppressing the alien insolence which pushes aside the native citizen, and assuming his place, controls the politics of the land.

Equally rare, also, is the American, whose sympathies are not with those who advocate freedom in the territories, and whose judgment does not approve the spirit of the advances of the negro, and the Birmingham platform declared in direct terms to be the sentiment of the party in this State. That platform was the clearest and truest expression of American principles that has, at any time, been put forth. It received the endorsement of the people, and Americans may date their untoward fortunes from the day they suffered it to be superseded by one less emphatic on that absorbing subject.

Evidences are too apparent to admit the intervention of a doubt, that the prominent doctrines of the Republican and American parties are those approved by a large majority of the electors of New York. Their political instincts and sympathies are identical, and their separation is more the result of party prejudice, than the dictates of sober judgment.

United on a common platform, in opposition to the aggressions of an alien influence, in support of American Nationality, the defeat of the common adversary would be inevitable. Whether such a union, in the present exigency of political affairs, ought to commend itself to the favorable consideration, we submit to the candid judgment of the American and Republican reader.—*Albany Evening Statesman.*

The Fillibusters—What Now?

Among the passengers by the steamship Tennessee, which left New Orleans for Vera Cruz on the 14th instant, says the New York Herald, we notice the names of Captain Mansfield Lovell and Don Porfirio Valiente. Capt. L. was a distinguished officer in the American army during the war in Mexico, and resigned his commission for the purpose of acting as confidential agent for General Quitman in preparing the great expedition against Cuba three years since. Senor Valiente was Secretary of the Cuban Junta in this city at the same period, and arrived quite recently from Paris. We learn, continues the Herald, that about the time of his arrival here Captain G. Smith, formerly Professor of Engineering at West Point, and who also resigned his commission in the army, where he had a high reputation, to take part in Quitman's expedition, returned quite suddenly from the West, and that soon after his arrival here Messrs. Lovell and Valiente left for Mexico. It is probable that these gentlemen had a conference with General Quitman, who is in the South, before leaving for Vera Cruz. What has stirred up the old Cuban Junta in this city so suddenly? Is the descent upon Cuba from Mexico already underway?—*Albany Statesman.*

From the New York Sun of Nov. 21.

Crime in New York.

Crime, and crime too of the most desperate character, has increased in this city to an alarming extent. Every night of the week which closes to-day has been marked by acts of brutal outrage and murderous assaults on the person. Our columns are daily filled with the dark record of hideous crime, committed with circumstances of unusual atrocity. There seem to be in our midst bands of desperadoes who have cast off all regard for law, human or divine, and go forth in the darkness of night prepared for deeds of violence. Defenseless women and unoffending men are made the objects of their savage attacks, and the very Spirit of Evil seems to be present, nursing them for the commission of horrid crimes. Assassins trained in other countries prevail through the streets, extending for blood, and swelling the list of crimes which appal the minds of the peaceable and law-loving.

THE NEXT QUESTION OF THE DAY.—Where will General Walker (the fillibuster) turn up? Nothing seems to be positively known as to his real destination. Nicaragua, if possible, his friends say,—but if not Nicaragua,—then, Yucatan or Hayti,—or the Isle of Pines.

Solitude bears the same relation to the mind, that sleep does to the body. It is an indispensable opportunity for repose and recovery.

ANECDOTE FROM HARPER'S DRAWER.—"I was once present on the hills at a discussion between two rival candidates for Congress in an excited election contest in Tennessee. Both gentlemen were now in high station; one of them for twelve years in Congress, and has been Postmaster General, and the other has gained a reputation for brilliant and classical oratory almost as wide as that of his illustrious kinsman of the same patronymic in Virginia. But to the discussion. Mr. J. had been rather coolly complacently meeting his opponent—who was called the 'Eagle orator'—on the remarkable suavity of his manners, and his affability with the people; and went on to say that he had an irresistible way of seizing the hands of his constituents between both his own, and bowing so affectionately as to win their whole hearts. 'I must confess,' continued Mr. J., 'that I have practiced for hours before a looking glass to acquire that fascinating manner, but without success. I must yield to my friend the palm in shaking hands.'"

In reply Mr. H. said: "If my honorable opponent wishes to make himself agreeable to honest people, he must be practicing before the faces of his constituents more assiduously the kindly feelings of the heart. He is the last man who should accuse me of practicing behavior to win votes. I will tell you a little anecdote illustrative of the peculiar electrocuring abilities of my honorable friend in his intercourse with our intelligent constituents. We were canvassing in a remote part of the district; and, having arranged an appointment to speak near the house of a very influential Squire, we spent the previous night at his house together. It was well known that the Squire controlled all the votes in that precinct, and that his better half controlled him; so that it was all important to get on the right side of her. We had agreed not to dine with the Squire, while we said with him; but I did not think this forbade me to do my best with his family. So I arose about daybreak the next morning, and, thinking that I should make friends with the mistress of the house by bringing water to cook the breakfast, I took a bucket and started over for the spring. I was tripping off my 'high heels' and singing merrily as I went along, when what on earth should I see, as I looked into the barn yard, but the old woman milking the cow, with my honorable friend, with his face ruddy with morning exercise, and his long locks streaming in the breeze, was holding the cow by the tail! I saw instantly that he had the start of me. I returned to my house discomfited, and abandoned all hope of a vote in that region."

THE LATE MASSACRE IN THE MORMON SETTLEMENTS.—An officer of the army who was stationed nearly a year in Utah, and who passed over the Great Salt Lake from Salt Lake City to Los Angeles, in command of a detachment of United States troops, in 1855—informs us that he camped several days at Mountain Meadows, the scene of the late horrible massacre of over one hundred emigrants, and that there is no room for the shadow of a doubt that the Mormons were cognizant of and instigated this horrible butchery. The Indians in the vicinity of Fillmore, Parowan, and all the southern settlements, extending to the Virgin river, are entirely under the control of the Mormons; the chiefs are recognized members of the Mormon church, and missionaries are constantly residing with them. He further informs us that it would be impossible for the Indians to plan an attack upon even a single wagon train without the knowledge of the Mormons, and that for years no small party of Americans have ever been safe in traveling this route. As a matter of necessity all small trains have assumed the name of Mormons to travel safely. These Indians are well armed with rifles, and supplied with ammunition, and are in the habit of attacking the caravans of the United States troops through their country, in 1855, every effort was made by the Mormons to induce the Indians to attack them, and they were only prevented from so doing by the superior strength and great precaution shown by the troops. This fact was communicated to the War Department, at the time, in an official report.—*Journal of Commerce.*

THE PROPOSED NEW TERRITORY OF COLUMBUS.

The residents of the Great American Basin, comprising that portion of the country lying west of the Rocky Mountains and bounded by those mountains on the east, the Sierra Nevada on the west, the Oregon and Utah lines on the north, and the Great North Mountain on the south, have appointed Mr. James M. Crane a delegate to Washington, to attend the approaching session of Congress, for the purpose of endeavoring to have that basin set apart as a Territory, to be under a Territorial government, and to be designated the Territory of Columbus.

AYER'S AMERICAN ALMANAC for 1858 is now ready for delivery at the Agents, who are ready to supply all that call for them. Every family should have and keep this book. It is worth having. Comprising much information of great value, it gives the best instruction for the cure of prevalent complaints than we can get anywhere. Its anecdotes alone are worth a bushel of wheat, and its medical advice is sometimes worth to the sick the wheat's weight in gold. Many of the medical almanacs are trash, but this is solid metal. Its calculations are made purposely for this latitude, and are therefore correct. Call and get Ayer's almanac, and when you get it, keep it.

THE SCENE IN A THEATRE.—A writer from Europe gives the following description of the scene at Leghorn, where, in an agony of alarm, one hundred men, of a crowd, were trampled to death, and five hundred wounded: "The house was crowded. The play 'The taking of Sevastopol.' The first acts went off well; battery after battery exploded, and the thrilling spectacle made the theatre ring with applause. All eyes were turned to see them take the Malakoff. At last it was stormed. The soldiers rushed in, then the explosion, amid the wildest cheers. At that moment a spark caught the scenes, they blazed, the audience thought it a part of the play and cheered the louder, the scene was so unnatural. Alas! it was too perfect. Another moment they saw their mistake, a wild cry of misery drowned the applause. Higher it rose, maddening the spectators with fright. Five minutes more and the fire was extinguished, but the spectators, like a herd of buffaloes, like a panic-stricken army, like a flock of sheep before wolves, like passengers from a sinking ship, losing all thought but of self-preservation, rushed from their seats. The shrieks of women, the shrill cry of children, the hoarse voices of men, all struggling for life, presented a scene not describable. Some threw themselves from the boxes into the pit, killing themselves and crushing those beneath them. No judgment, no forethought; out of the windows, over the ledges, stamping each other to death. The sentinels were ordered to stop the passage with bayonets. They planted, and those in the front ranks were run through and through, and the soldiers, with the rest, were mutilated with the feet of hundreds."

DISEASE AMONG THE COWS.—The Wilmington (Delaware) Journal says: A cow belonging to John White, of Milford, a few days ago commenced bellowing, and howled incessantly until she died. David Robinson has once with the same disease. There is nothing to appear the matter with them, except they refuse food and low almost incessantly until death. No one appears to have heard of anything of the kind before.

WISCONSIN ELECTION.—From the Milwaukee News (Dem.), of the 25th ultimo we learn that the result of the late election in that State has at length been ascertained. The Republicans have elected the Governor and Prison Inspector, and in the Legislature there is a small Republican majority on joint ballot. The Democrats elected all the State officers with the exception of Governor and Inspector.

SNOW KNEE DEEP.—A gentleman just from Superior, up North, says that two weeks ago he waded in snow that was knee deep, between Stevens' Point and Superior.—*Chicago Journal.*

Translated for the Texas Baptist, from the Evangelist Apologetic.

THE POWER OF ROMANISM IN THE UNITED STATES.—In the Catholic Kirchzeitung, of Cincinnati, published by Father Dertel, an article appears lately, of the power of the Roman Catholic church in the United States.—We extract the following:

"Any one who does undervalue the might and strength of the church in the United States, does find himself in an awful labyrinth."

"We have not alone seven archbishops, thirty-three bishops, one thousand seven hundred and four priests, unitedly in the service of the Pope and church, but we have likewise thirty-one colleges, thirty-seven academies, and one hundred and seventeen female seminaries, all founded by Jesuits, which threaten danger and destruction to American Know-Nothingism, American Radicalism, unbelief and disbelief. And the spiritual tie, which, like a golden cord surround this forty-one dioceses and two apostolical Vicariates, and extends from the Atlantic to the silent waters of the Pacific ocean, and keeps an invisible, secret and magnetic combination with Rome."

"This hierarchy is a sure security that after many a contest the church will one day, victoriously triumph above all other sects of America."

"It is calculated that at this time there are above two millions of Roman Catholic citizens in the United States. These are all baptized, and regular soldiers of the Lord, and at the first call they will advance and obey the command."

"Nobody will, then, undervalue the might of the Catholic church in the United States. I will throw sand into nobody's eyes, and therefore declare publicly that the power and influence of the Catholic church is stronger than the multitude will believe. Whoever doubts this must either be blind or else is a fool."

A. W.

We publish the above article, and give to all our readers the privilege of making their own comment.

B.

THE USURPATION.—The Warrenton Whig, referring to the late outrageous usurpation of the Governor of Virginia, holds the following language:

"When we first published the statement that Governor Wise had loaned three thousand muskets to Governor Ligon, of Maryland, we did not fully believe it, but gave it as a mere report. It seemed to us incredible that even Governor Wise, notwithstanding he is known to be capable of almost any vagary, should have been guilty of such an impropriety. But the facts admitted that the Governor of Virginia, without authority of law, has undertaken to transport the public arms beyond the limits of the Commonwealth, to be used by the mad-cap Governor of another State. Comment on the act is unnecessary. Every citizen not blinded by partisan prejudice must perceive and acknowledge the outrage, and if the members of the Virginia Legislature are not the wisest slaves to his Excellency they will promptly call him to account."

SKIPPY MASSACRE.—An English officer was standing in his bungalow, with only his wife with him, when he was assailed by a mutinous regiment; he had a rifle and two revolvers, each with four barrels, and had nine charges in all. He beat off the mutineers as long as he could; he shot their leader with his rifle; he killed four of them with his first revolver; he killed two of them with his second, and then he had two charges left. He turned round and looked upon his wife—and who can estimate the power of such a look on either side. Must she fall into the hands of such barbarians? They did not fire, because they wanted her, and would not risk death in shooting him. He saw it—she saw it. He had two charges left. A short agonizing groan; he fired one into her heart and the other into his, and they both fell dead before the mutineers.—*Letter from India.*

EXTRAORDINARY DEVELOPMENTS.

It has been understood that a committee of the City Council of Philadelphia has been investigating the conduct of the Board of Health, against whom gross charges of fraud and peculation have been made. The investigation has been finished, and a report to the Councils has been prepared, a copy of which has been placed in our hands. Its revelations are worthy the attention of tax-payers. It is charged that the public treasury has been wronged out of large sums by the action of the Board; that fictitious bills have been presented and paid, and that warrants have been drawn in the names of firms who never had any transactions with the Board; that the members of the Board have used the public funds in eating and drinking, and covered up the facts by these fictitious charges. The character of these transactions is shown by the evidence submitted. The first transaction is in regard to filling a lot at Broad and Prime streets. Previous to making the contract the cost of this job was estimated at about \$900. The bills actually rendered amount to \$24,418 and \$11,531 have been paid to the contractors. The Board of Health was charged for this work \$250 for each horse and cart and \$1.25 for each laborer. The earth was hauled from cellars dug for private individuals, who paid for the work. "The Board has actually paid 25,777 loads, while the cost is for 134,940 loads, or a quantity sufficient to make a mound twenty feet higher than the curbstone. The Health Officer, it is charged, always had an interest in all contracts. Bills for dinners, liquors, cigars, carriage hire, consumed the whole of the revenue; but this being insufficient, fictitious bills were made out to meet the deficiencies, and were passed by the Board. Other bills of like character were made out to cover the cost of the committee's feast at the Lazaretto. Warrants were drawn in favor of persons who never had any dealings with the Board. All the members of the Board are not implicated in these transactions. Some were made participants in them through ignorance, and